

NEWS RELEASE

Kaibab National Forest



www.fs.usda.gov/kaibab
www.twitter.com/KaibabNF



For Immediate Release

Contact: David Hercher, 928-643-8110

July 1, 2014

Wildfire Safety: Everyone's Responsibility

FREDONIA, Ariz. – With 4th of July celebrations beginning soon, forest visitors are reminded that Stage II fire restrictions apply to all areas within the Kaibab National Forest boundaries. In general, these restrictions prohibit or otherwise limit the use of campfires and smoking, chainsaws, welding, explosives, internal combustion engines, fireworks and the discharging of firearms.

Forest Service personnel are committed to reducing the threat of wildfire and remind everyone that historically, human-caused fires account for about 20 percent of all fires on the Kaibab National Forest. Fire restrictions will remain in effect until forest officials determine that conditions have changed sufficiently to reduce the risk of human-caused wildfire.

“As we continue to evaluate and monitor conditions, please remember that fire prevention is our first line of defense,” said North Zone Fire Management Officer Ed Hiatt. “We are in a critical time of our fire season, and fire prevention is everyone’s responsibility.”

The low incidence of human-caused fires on the forest indicates that most visitors are complying with the current restrictions, but forest users are urged to remain cognizant of the risk and continue complying with all fire restrictions.

As a reminder, if you witness a fire restrictions violation, such as target practice with a firearm or an illegal campfire, you are advised to call 911. Remember, gas grills and gas fire places (propane fires that can be “turned off”) are still allowed under Stage II restrictions on the forest. Please be certain you are witnessing a violation before you report it.

Violation of any fire restriction order is punishable by a maximum \$5,000 fine, 6 months imprisonment or both.

THINK BEFORE YOU ACT!

It only takes one spark to start a wildfire. Chainsaws, dragging trailer safety chains, carelessly tossed cigarettes, fireworks, abandoned or unattended campfires, and discharge of firearms are all known causes of wildfire. Wildfires impact recreation areas, may destroy homes, and threaten lives.